

# Sharing the Cost of Services

This publication prepared by the Missouri Department of Mental Health Office of Public Affairs

Revised November 2003

BOB HOLDEN GOVERNOR

DORN SCHUFFMAN DIRECTOR



#### STATE OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

1706 EAST ELM STREET P.O. BOX 687 JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102 (573) 751-4122 (573) 526-1201 TTY www.dmh.mo.gov MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

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CLIFFORD L. SARGEON

October 2003

Dear Consumers of Department Services:

Each year the Department of Mental Health provides services for more than 100,000 Missourians and their families. Through its state-operated facilities and contract programs, the department assists persons with mental illnesses, developmental disabilities, and alcohol or drug abuse problems. It also provides services to persons who are compulsive gamblers.

This pamphlet is intended to explain how the department charges its clients for services. Unanswered questions should be addressed to the reimbursement administrator in the department's Office of Administration. The telephone number is 573-751-3398.

Sincerely,

Dorn Schuftmar

Director

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## STATE OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

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#### Service costs shared by many\_

Caring for and treating people with mental illnesses, developmental disabilities, and those with substance abuse problems is expensive. In Missouri, such care can cost hundreds of dollars per day. Many families cannot bear the cost for this care and treatment alone. The Missouri Department of Mental Health is there to help.

Through its many programs, the Missouri Department of Mental Health provides assistance to thousands of persons. Many resources must be tapped to help recover costs incurred. The department, however, makes every effort to provide quality services to its clients while keeping costs as low as possible.

For example, third-party benefits are applied to offset costs first. Those benefits can come from private or public health insurance policies, or from Medicare or Medicaid.

If those payments are insufficient, a client or his family is asked to contribute a portion of the costs based on the family's ability to pay for care given to a client. Those charges are determined using a table that considers family size and income.

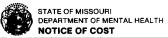
The table is administered by each individual facility. It is applied uniformly throughout the state and is reviewed annually.

Other assets are collected when the client is without spouse or dependents and determined to need full-time, long-term (inpatient or placement) care. In such cases, a client's earned and unearned income can be applied to costs. Unearned income, including benefits from disability, survivor's retirement, or pension plans, is used first. Ex-

amples of unearned income include payments by the Social Security Administration, the Veterans Administration, the Railroad Retirement Board, the Civil Service Commission and the Division of Family Services. Earned income from wages and salaries is charged if unearned income fails to cover costs.

However, a client is permitted to keep some income for personal spending. The amount, \$30 a month or more, is determined by the team of professionals planning for a client's care.

Missouri law requires the Department of Mental Health to charge for the services it provides and to take certain steps to recover its costs. The charges to a client or his family, however, are kept to a minimum so services are affordable to all. Missouri law also requires the state to recover costs from a deceased client's estate. By sharing the costs with a client or his family, the department is able to offer better care. And caring is what the Department of Mental Health is all about.



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# State facilities serving those who misuse or are addicted to alcohol or other drugs and their families:

 New Prospects
 Fulton State Hospital

 2600 E. 12<sup>nd</sup> St.
 600 E. 5<sup>th</sup> St.

 Kansas City, MO 64127
 Fulton, MO 65251

 V (816) 482-5770
 V (573) 592-2348

 FAX (816) 482-5774
 FAX (573) 592-2370

 TTY (816) 482-5775
 TTY (573) 592-3498

Metropolitan St. Louis Psychiatric Center 5351 Delmar St. Louis, MO 63112 V (314) 877-0530 FAX (314) 877-0553 TTY (314) 877-0775

The Jefferson City address of the Department of Mental Health Central Office is:

Department of Mental Health 1706 E. Elm St. P.O. Box 687 Jefferson City, MO 65102 V (573) 751-4122 FAX (573) 751-8224 TTY (573) 751-2881 http://www.dmh.mo.gov

The Department of Mental Health does not deny employment or services because of race, sex, creed, marital status, national origin, disability, or age of applicants or employees.

Examples of forms used in the application of the Standard Means Test can be found on the following pages. They are:

Standard Means Test Financial Questionnaire, and Notice of Cost.

# Questions and answers about service charges

- Q. The costs for providing health care seem so expensive. What is included in the costs to the department?
- A. The department provides a wide variety of services, which are indeed expensive. Major expenses include room and board, nursing care, medical expenses, day treatment, family support services, and case management.
- Q. Can charges to me exceed costs of the services provided?
- A. No. The Department of Mental Health is required by law to determine charges and redetermine them each year. When private sources are employed to provide services, costs are set through contracts. Your charges are never allowed to exceed costs of the services provided.
- Q. My child is over age 18. Am I liable for charges of services to him/her?
- A. No. Parents are not liable from their incomes for the charges for services to their children ages 18 or older.

  Monies received by parents for their children in a fiduciary capacity are, however, subject to charges.
- Q. My school-age child needs special education. Can I be charged for it?
- A. No. A parent of a recipient ages 3 through 18 is not liable for costs of education or special education. You may, however, be charged for certain medical expenses, including medical supplies, chiropody medication, anesthesiology, oxygen therapy, radiology, electrocardiology, and electroencephalography. In addition, operating room, laboratory, dental, and physician's expenses are also chargeable. Parents are also asked to provide personal spending money.

- Q. What items are considered personal expenses?
- A. Clients' personal spending needs vary widely. A family may be asked to provide money for cigarettes, candy, or soft drinks. Other items, such as clothes, jewelry, games, and some toiletries are also the family's responsibility.
- Q. If two members of my family received services in the same month, must I pay double?
- A. No. Your monthly ability to pay is the same amount regardless of how many visits you receive in that month. It is the same for any number of family members being seen. It is the responsibility of the client or family to notify the provider if two or more members receive services in the same month.
- Q. Am I required to provide documents to verify my income, assets, and dependents?
- A. Yes. A client or his family must divulge financial resources, using such documents as pay stubs, the most recently filed tax return, employer verfication of income, etc. If you fail to provide the documents, you become responsible for all costs.
- Q. What if I fail to comply with requests for insurance information, assigning benefits, or applying for benefits (i.e. Medicaid, Social Security, VA benefits)?
- A. You will be charged the full cost of services with no regard to income and size of family.
- Q. My financial status changed after I submitted my income documentation and I make less money now. Must I continue to pay the same amount?
- A. Not necessarily. If your financial situation changes, you should submit new information and request a review of your financial status. Charges to you would be adjusted, if appropriate.

# State regional centers serving persons with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities and their families:

Albany Regional Center 809 N. 13th St. Albany, MO 64402 V (660) 726-5246 FAX (660) 726-5612 TTY (660) 726-5844

Central Missouri Regional Center 1500 Vandiver Dr., Suite 100 Columbia, MO 65202 V (573) 882-9835 FAX (573) 884-4294 TTY (573) 882-9835

Hannibal Regional Center 805 Clinic Rd., PO Box 1108 Hannibal, MO 63401 V (573) 248-2400 FAX (573) 248-2408 TTY (573) 248-2415

Joplin Regional Center 3600 E. Newman Rd., PO Box 1209 Joplin, MO 64802 V (417) 629-3020 FAX (417) 629-3026 TTY (417) 629-3020

821 E. Admiral Blvd. PO Box 412557 Kansas City, MO 64106 V (816) 889-3400 FAX (816) 889-3325 TTY (816) 889-3326

Kansas City Regional Center

Kirksville Regional Center 1702 E. LaHarpe Kirksville, MO 63501 V (660) 785-2500 FAX (660) 785-2520 TTY (660) 785-2500 Poplar Bluff Regional Center 2351 Kanell Blvd., PO Box 460 Poplar Bluff, MO 63902 V (573) 840-9300 FAX (573) 840-9311 TTY (573) 840-9312

Rolla Regional Center 105 Fairgrounds Rd., PO Box 1098 Rolla, MO 65402 V (573) 368-2200 FAX (573) 368-2206 TTY (573) 368-2200

St. Louis Regional Center, North 211 North Lindbergh St. Louis, MO 63141 V (314) 340-6500 FAX (314) 340-6666 TTY (314) 340-6659

St. Louis Regional Center, South 3101 Chouteau Ave. St. Louis, MO 63103 V (314) 301-3900 FAX (314) 301-3904 TTY (314) 301-3905

Sikeston Regional Center 112 Plaza Dr., PO Box 966 Sikeston, MO 63801 V (573) 472-5300 FAX (573) 472-5308 TTY (573) 472-5391

Springfield Regional Center 1515 East Pythian, PO Box 5030 Springfield, MO 65801-5030 V (417) 895-7400 FAX (417) 895-7412 TTY (417) 895-7430 Metropolitan St. Louis Psychiatric Center 5351 Delmar St. Louis, MO 63112 V (314) 877-0500 FAX (314) 877-0553 TTY (314) 877-0775 Missouri Sexual Offender Treatment Center 1016 West Columbia Farmington, MO 63640 V (573) 218-7045 FAX (573) 218-7053

Cottonwood Residential Treatment Services 1025 North Sprigg St. Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 V (573) 290-5888 FAX (573) 290-5895 TTY (573) 290-5888

# State residential facilities serving persons with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities and their families:

Bellefontaine Habilitation Center 10695 Bellefontaine Rd. St. Louis, MO 63137 V (314) 340-6000 FAX (314) 340-6199 TTY (314) 340-6290

Higginsville Habilitation Center Morris Dr., PO Box 517 Higginsville, MO 64037 V (660) 584-2142 FAX (660) 584-6244 TTY (660) 584-3935

Marshall Habilitation Center Slater St., PO Box 190 Marshall, MO 65340 V (660) 886-2201 FAX (660) 831-3071 TTY (660) 886-6929 Nevada Habilitation Center 2323 North Ash Nevada, MO 64772 V (417) 667-7833 FAX (417) 448-1138 TTY (417) 448-1302

St. Louis Developmental Disabilities Treatment Centers 211 N. Lindbergh St. Louis, MO 63141 V (314) 340-6702 FAX (314) 340-6724 TT (314) 340-6659

Southeast Missouri Residential Services 2351 Kanell Blvd. Poplar Bluff, MO 63902 V (573) 840-9370 FAX (573) 840-9373 TTY (573) 840-9312

- Q. When are my bills due?
- A. Bills for each month's services are mailed the following month. They are payable upon receipt.
- Q. What can I do if I believe my charges are unfair?
- A. You may appeal your charges only if you believe your assessment was inaccurately calculated. An appeal to the director cannot be made because you disagree with your share of the payment. It must be based on what you believe is an inaccurate calculation of allowable exemptions under Standard Means Test rules.
- Q. What if I fail to pay the costs assigned to me through the Standard Means Test procedure?
- A. The state will pursue other means to receive payment; for example, the Income Tax Intercept Program and any other means allowable under state and federal law.
- Q. I can't afford to pay for the care my family member needs. Can we be turned away?
- A. No. The department has never refused to provide services to someone unable to pay. However, if the department finds you can pay and won't, the department reserves the right to refrain from providing services.
- Q. What if I am covered by insurance and the Department of Mental Health is not an approved provider?
- A. You must go to an approved provider or pay the full cost of services.
- Q. Where can I get further information?
- A. Contact the administrator at your local facility.

#### Admission checklist\_

Incurance company

You should provide the following information when requesting services for individuals from a Department of Mental Health facility.

insurance company
name and address
Insurance policy or
group number
Medicare number
Medicaid number
Proof of Income
Proof of Dependents
•
Social Security number of client,
spouse, or parents of a minor child

# To receive information on the Standard Means Test, contact any of the following:

### **Department of Mental Health Facilities**

State facilities serving persons with mental illnesses and mental disorders and their families:

St. Louis Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center 5300 Arsenal St. Louis, MO 63139 V (314) 644-8000 FAX (314) 644-8115 TTY (314) 644-7945

Hawthorn Children's Psychiatric Hospital 1901 Pennsylvania St. Louis, MO 63133 V (314) 512-7800 FAX (314) 512-7812 TTY (314) 512-7593

Fulton State Hospital 600 E. 5<sup>th</sup> St. Fulton, MO 65251-1798 V (573) 592-4100 FAX (573) 592-3000 TTY (573) 592-3498

Northwest Missouri Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center 3505 Frederick St. Joseph, MO 64506 V (816) 387-2300 FAX (816) 387-2329 TTY (816) 387-2595 Southeast Missouri Mental Health Center 1010 West Columbia Farmington, MO 63640 V (573) 218-6792 FAX (573) 218-6703 TTY (573) 218-7018

Southwest Missouri Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center 1301 Industrial Parkway East El Dorado Springs, MO 64744 V (417) 876-1002 FAX (417) 876-1004 TTY (417) 876-2604

Mid-Missouri Mental Health Center 3 Hospital Dr. Columbia, MO 65201 V (573) 884-1300 FAX (573) 884-1010 TTY (573) 884-1012

Western Missouri Mental Health Center 600 East 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Kansas City, MO 64108 V (816) 512-4000 FAX (816) 512-4030 TTY (816) 512-4670